

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORT MADE AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN	DATE WHEN MADE 11/27/50	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11/22-23, 24, 25, 26, 27/50	REPORT MADE BY FRED C. COOK VAC
TITLE VICTOR FORNAN, Was, Vitold Fornan, Victor Fornan			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R, LA
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p>Declaration of Intention filed by Subject at Detroit, April 25, 1947. Subject resides 13277 Mack Road, Detroit, and employed as Cooperator at General Motors Corporation Truck and Coach Division, Parts Department, 3945 Vermont, Detroit. Subject alleged to have been expelled July, 1930, from student Embassy at University of Riga, Latvia, due to support of Communist Party while editor of Communist newspaper during Russian occupation.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">FOR COORDINATION WITH- FBI</p> <p>DETAILS:</p> <p>The title of this case is being marked changed to reflect the name VITOLD FORNANIS which appears in the Statement of Facts filed by Subject with the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Detroit, and the name VICTOR FORNAN which is shown for the Subject in the records of the Merchants Credit Bureau, Detroit.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">At Detroit, Michigan</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CITIZENSHIP</p> <p>RONALD T. WILLIAMS, Investigator, Immigration and Naturalization Service, 3770 East Jefferson, Detroit, made available their files on the Subject which reflected that as VITOLD FORNAN he filed a preliminary form for a Declaration of Intention on April 25, 1947, Number</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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0800-K-6419. This reflected that Subject arrived at New York as VITOLD FORMANIS on February 18, 1947, on the S.S. Rulia Pyle and that the name on the Steamship Ticket was VITOLD FORMAN. He was born at Rihimsk, Russia, February 4, 1919; father, MARTIN FORMAN; mother ALMA GONOV; last foreign address Esslingen a/Neckar, Germany; left the Port of Bremen on the United States Lines First Class on Immigration Visa destined to AUGUST M. JACOBSON. Names of persons with whom Subject was acquainted on the ship were Mr. and Mrs. HERBERT TAURIN. In his Statement of Facts he declared that his occupation was that of a clerk, age 28, complexion dark, eyes hazel, race Caucasian, hair black, height 5'8", weight 140 pounds, no visible scars or marks. He was issued Certificate of Arrival 0800-K-6419 as VITOLDS FORMANIS, May 14, 1947.

Subject's wife, GAIDA FORMAN, also filed her preliminary form for a Declaration of Intention on April 25, 1947, Number 0800-K-6418. She was born at Riga, Latvia, February 26, 1921; father, PETER KARKEVICS; mother, EMILIA LUKOVSKI; maiden name GAIDA KARKEVICS; last foreign residence Esslingen a/Neckar, Germany; emigrated from Bremen, Germany, on the United States Lines First Class on Immigration Visa arriving in New York February 18, 1947, on the S.S. Rulia Pyle. She was destined to AUGUST M. JACOBSON and also listed Mr. and Mrs. HERBERT TAURIN as the names of the passengers, or other persons, whom she travelled with. Her Certificate of Arrival was issued May 14, 1947, using the name GAIDA FORMANIS.

In her Statement of Facts to be used in making her Declaration of Intention, GAIDA FORMANIS stated her occupation was millinery, age 26, complexion light, eyes blue, hair blonde, height 5'4", weight 122, Nationality Latvian, no visible scars or marks. She was married to VITOLD FORMAN at Riga, Latvia, July 18, 1944, and presently resides with her husband.

RESIDENCE

Subject appeared at the Detroit Office on June 2, 1947, and informed that he is currently residing at 13137 Mark Twain, Detroit, telephone VThroat 8-3670.

EMPLOYMENT

WILLIAM A. MORIARTY, Warehouse Manager, General Motors Corporation Truck and Coach Division, Parts Department, 3923 Vermont, Detroit, made available Subject's employment record on November 21, 1950. This reflected he was hired June 1, 1947, as a Stock Handler and is presently employed as a Counterman or Balancer in the Parts Department. Under the caption "Education" it was shown that he had attended the University of Riga Law School from 1937 to 1943 when he graduated. In addition, Subject has taken correspondence courses in Russian, German, Ukrainian and Latvian. He attended a Sanitary Inspection School at Riga, graduating in 1939.

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In his Application for Employment, which was signed at VITOLD NORMAN, May 11, 1947, Subject listed the following as his previous employment:

Last Employment	Dates Employed	Kind of Business	Kind of Work	Reason for Leaving
City Dept. of Riga, Riga, Latvia	Sept. 1938 to Oct. 1939	General Office Clerk	Accounting of Wages	Advancing
Health Dept. of Riga, Riga, Latvia	Oct. 1939 to Dec. 1942	Sanitary Inspector	Inspection of hotels, bars, food markets, etc.	Departed to Germany
German Railroad Bruck Mur, Austria	Aug. 1944 to April, 1945	Posting Clerk	Posting and Registering of railroad material	The end of the war
UNRRA Esslingen, Germany	Aug. 1945 to Jan. 1947	Transportation Officer	Supervising work of UNRRA garages and vehicles	Immigration to U.S.A.

Mr. MORIARITY stated that NORMAN had secured his employment at General Motors Corporation through JOHN STANTON, a janitor who has been employed by the company over ten years. MORIARITY stated that STANTON is a White Russian and strongly anti-Communist. According to MORIARITY, NORMAN has been a satisfactory employee and has expressed himself as being anti-Communist.

MORIARITY advised that it was his understanding that Subject's wife has a millinery job which causes her to travel on the road visiting places such as New York City.

NATIONALISTIC SYMPATHIES, TENDENCIES AND ACTIVITIES

Confidential Informant Detroit T-1, of known reliability, another government agency which conducts security type investigations, stated that on July 25, 1950, ANDRI S. RZINS, Camp Administrator, Latvian D.P. Camp, Esslingen, Germany, was interviewed relative to his knowledge of Subject. RZINS stated that Subject joined the Latvian Student Fraternity "Letumia" in January, 1938. At that time Subject was a sports writer and sports enthusiast. Subject's father, was a member of the Latvian Social Democratic Party, but belonged to the group within this party that leaned to the extreme left.

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In approximately February, 1940, BERZINS saw an article in a Latvian newspaper written by Subject which seemed to condemn the Latvians for their way of life. Subject was questioned by the Fraternity "Lettonia" concerning this article and, when it became apparent that he was lying, he was expelled for six months. In June, 1940, after the occupation of Latvia by the Russians, a sports newspaper carried an article by Subject which praised the present type of sports initiated by the Russians as more healthful and graceful than the former degrading methods of sport undertakings under the free Latvian Government. Subject continued to praise the actions of the Russian occupation and abuse the supporters of the free Latvian Government. Subject also was an editor for the Latvian Communist newspaper "Cinn", during the Russian occupation. In July, 1940, Subject was permanently expelled from the Fraternity.

Confidential Informant Detroit T-1 further advised that EDUARD ERDMANIS, 8850th Labor Service Company, Esslingen, Germany, was interviewed on August 17, 1950, concerning his knowledge of Subject. ERDMANIS stated that he has known FORMANIS since 1938 when Subject joined the Latvian student group "Lettonia". At that time FORMANIS was attending the University of Riga, Latvia, studying engineering and law. FORMANIS was a normal member of the student group until the Russians invaded Latvia in June, 1940, at which time he began writing articles for the Communist sponsored newspaper, "Cinn". According to ERDMANIS, Subject was expelled from the Latvian student group, "Lettonia", in July or August, 1940, for collaborating with the Russians and writing pro-Communist articles for the newspaper "Cinn". ERDMANIS added that Subject contacted him in the latter part of July, 1940, and stated that he had been and was at that time, a member of the Communist Youth Movement in Latvia.

Confidential Informant Detroit T-1 furnished an Affidavit

as follows:

"Latvian Student Fraternity
'LETTONIA'

"Esslingen/Hecker,
July 29th, 1949

"We : When it may concern.

SUBJECT: statement about VITOLDS FORMANIS

"We, the undersigned, members of the board of 'Lettonia' certify, that VITOLDS FORMANIS, born on February 4, 1919, joined the Latvian Student Fraternity 'Lettonia' in January, 1938, as a law student of the University of Riga. In February 1940, in accordance with the

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"Decision of the 'Lettonia' International Sport he was expelled for 6 months from Lettonia for Latvia. The government had not expelled them in July 1940 another communist was brought up in the 'Congress of Friendship' about an article in the communist newspaper 'Sport World'. In this article he praised the communist government, thus showing his communist attitude. In accordance with the decision of 'Congress of Lettonia' he was expelled 'for propaganda'.

/s/ W. AFRAH

For Chairman

"JANIS AFRAH, born on September 27, 1909, Lawyer, BF Camp Esslingen Administrator, residing in Esslingen, 13-5 Stuttgarter Street.

/s/ W. AKERS

Vice Chairman

"BERTOLD AKERS, born on October 23, 1911, Lawyer, IBC Local Employee, residing in Esslingen, 75 Kintzburger street

"We, the undersigned, members of Latvian Student Fraternity 'Lettonia' certify that following are facts concerning VITOLDS FORMANIS, former member of 'Lettonia'.

"1. We have personally seen and read in July 1940 an article in the sport newspaper, which was printed by communists during the occupation of Latvia. In the article the sport activities in independent Latvia were compared with those during the occupation by Russians. In that article VITOLDS FORMANIS glorified the communist government and its attitude to sports and at the same time abusing the former Latvian independent government and its supporters. The article fully expressed FORMANIS' political opinion.

"2. We know, that in the years 1940/1941, during the Russian occupation of Latvia, VITOLDS FORMANIS has been a member of the Editor Board of the official communist party newspaper 'Cina' in Latvia.

/s/ ANDRIS PARZINS

ANDRIS PARZINS,

born on March 31, 1915, IBC Area 2 Headquarters employee, residing in Esslingen, 33-4 Stuttgarter Street.

/s/ W. FORMANIS

WITOLDS FORMANIS,

born on October 6, 1914, Graduate Engineer, residing in Esslingen, 38 Moltke street.

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/s/ "PAULS E. IERS"

"PAULS EIKS" IERS,

"born on January 4, 1911, Business Manager of Latvian Newspaper 'Latvija', residing in Keeligen, 7-4 Tannenberg street.

/s/ "V. OTLAKI"

"VICTORS OTLAKI,

"born on July 2, 1911, Businessman, residing in Keeligen, 3-5 Tannenberg street.

/s/ "H. SILINS"

"HINRIK SILINS,

"born on April 18, 1912, Legal Counsellor of IRO Assembly Centre in Keeligen, residing in Keeligen, 34 Scholster street.

/s/ "K. KILMINS"

"KILMINS KILMINS,

"born on May 29, 1912, former Secretary of Appeal Court in Riga, residing in Keeligen, 4-9 Tannenberg street."

CREDIT AND CRIMINAL

Records of the Merchants Credit Bureau, Detroit, reflected that Subject had come from Keeligen, Germany, where he had resided at 26 Martin Street. It was indicated that he had formerly been employed as a lawyer for the IRO Organization at Keeligen, Germany, prior to 1947. His wife, GAIDA, was shown to be employed as a hat designer at Milgrins, Vichner Building, Detroit. Subject was shown to have resided at 11237 Mark since December 21, 1949, and previously at 140 Seward, and also at 19449 Faust, Detroit. The report reflected no derogatory information. It was shown that Subject claimed an account with the National Bank of Detroit but that no record thereof was found at the Main Office or the Clifford-Bagley Office. In August, 1948, Subject gave as a reference a friend Mrs. CLARE WAMBERS, 140 Seward.

The records of the Michigan Merchants Credit Association contained no record of the Subject.

The records of the Identification Bureau, Wayne County, Michigan, Detroit, and the Bureau of Records, Detroit, Police Department, were checked with negative results on November 17 and November 20, 1950.

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